



ALBERTA-EUROPE TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION FUND

Program Information Summary

Goal

The overarching goal of this program is to help small and medium businesses become more globally competitive by developing innovative technologies and research-based alliances with the potential to foster economic growth. Further goals include:

- Connecting industry players and researchers across multiple jurisdictions;
- Development of new models of collaboration between Alberta and Europe that leverage technology capabilities, address common priorities, and accelerate the commercialization of technology; and
- Launching game-changing product development and commercialization projects that aim to bring new products and services to market, and deliver economic benefits to citizens in both jurisdictions

Who can apply?

Albertan small and medium-sized enterprises (1 to 499 employees and less than \$50 million in gross revenues, *Source: Industry Canada, Statistics Canada*) are welcome to apply to the Alberta-Europe Technology Collaboration Fund. European partners are small or medium-sized enterprises, larger companies or independent research institutions. All proposals to the program must involve an industry partner from each jurisdiction (i.e. Alberta and Europe) with an interest in commercialization. Research organizations and university institutes are welcome to participate as additional project partners. European SMEs are encouraged to apply for approximately matching funding in their respective jurisdictions. An overview of European funding opportunities can be found below.

***Please note that:**

The definition of SMEs in Europe may differ from Canada (i.e. UK, Luxembourg SME size is 1 to 249 employees; French ADICI program supports companies with up to 2000 employees).

Funding

The maximum project contribution by GCCIR is \$250,000 CAD, which would be granted to the Albertan applicant. The Albertan company is expected to match GCCIR funding through a combination of cash and in-kind contributions to the project. Funding for the European partner may be applied for through a funding organization in their respective jurisdiction, or through other appropriate sources. Should the European company be too large to be eligible for government support, then the requirement for their participation in the project will be to match the funding contributed by GCCIR and the Albertan SME. All funding sources must be disclosed.

Project Requirements and Scoring Considerations

- Indicate clearly identified commercialization goals consistent with project objectives (how does the project address and provide economic benefits – qualitative and quantitative – for both Alberta and Europe)
- Demonstrate expertise (management, technical, and operational) in the field of the project and propose a strong joint team
- Indicate the respective human expertise contribution(s) to the project
- Leverage proven methodologies
- Include a risk assessment complete with mitigation strategies
- Provide realistic economic indicators (NPV, IRR suggested)
- Demonstrate financial capacity and commitment to contributing the company's portion of the project funding
- Clearly demonstrate development of long-term innovation capacity
- Delineate the potential return on investment for all participants in the proposal
- Identify how intellectual property will be managed

Project Selection Criteria

Calls will be open to initiatives or projects focusing on developing innovative products, technology-based services, or methods in all technological and application areas, which have strong market potential.

Eligible projects can be in any of the following stages:

- Applied research and development
- Product development
- Proof of concept
- Prototype development
- Technology demonstration

Project Evaluation

All applications to the Alberta-Europe Technology Collaboration Fund will be peer-reviewed by a panel of external evaluators. This leads to a ranking of the applications. The final decision-making authority is the GCCIR Steering Committee.

Looking for European Partners?

We organize a matchmaking mission to Europe for Albertan companies every year (usually in late fall). These missions include 4 to 5 stops spanning a variety of European countries. Please contact us at info@gccir.ca for more information on our next [matchmaking mission](#).